

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) An electrical connector of a type which is connectable to a substrate, comprising:

a housing;

a plurality of electrical contacts carried by the housing, each contact having a contact interface interconnectable with a reciprocal contact interface carried by the substrate;

a contact guide having a plurality of apertures positioned to align and mate with the contact interfaces of the contacts; and

the housing including a locking post configured to mate with reciprocal apertures formed in both the contact guide and the substrate for securing both the contact guide and the substrate to the housing, the locking post having a base portion that is secured within the reciprocal apertures in the contact guide and having at least one bifurcated post with first and second opposed legs of different lengths which are compressible towards one another for insertion into the reciprocal aperture in the substrate, the locking post having a locking feature on a distal end thereof, the locking feature being snapably secured within the reciprocal aperture in the substrate.

2. (cancelled)

3. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the locking post is sized and shaped to form an interference fit with at least one of the reciprocal apertures in the contact guide and the substrate.

4. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base portion of the locking post includes an enlarged diameter portion sized to form an interference fit with the reciprocal aperture formed in the contact guide.

5. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the distal end of the locking post is adapted to snapably engage a bottom of the reciprocal aperture in the substrate.

6. (cancelled)

7. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of the opposed legs includes a locking feature configured to lockingly engage with a bottom surface of the substrate when the opposed legs are inserted into the reciprocal aperture in the substrate.

8. (original) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 1, wherein the contact interfaces comprise male pin connectors.

9. (previously presented) An electrical connector, comprising:

a housing having a substrate end mateable with a substrate and a connector end mateable with a second electrical connector;

a plurality of electrical contacts carried by the housing, each contact having a first contact interface positioned in the substrate end of the housing for interconnection with a reciprocal contact interface carried by the substrate and a second contact interface positioned in the connector end of the housing for interconnection with a reciprocal contact interface carried by the second electrical connector;

a contact guide configured to mate with the substrate end of the housing, the contact guide including a plurality of apertures positioned to matingly align with the first contact interfaces; and

a locking post having a base portion securing the housing to the contact guide and having a distal portion with first and second opposed legs of different lengths that are compressible

towards one another to allow the locking post to be inserted into the reciprocal aperture in the substrate, said distal portion snapably securing the housing to the substrate.

10. (original) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 9, wherein the first contact interface is oriented perpendicular to the second contact interface.

11. (cancelled)

12. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 9, wherein the base portion of the locking post has an enlarged portion sized to form an interference fit with the reciprocal aperture in the contact guide.

13. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 9, wherein the distal portion of the locking post is adapted to snap into the reciprocal aperture in the substrate.

14. (cancelled)

15. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 9, wherein at least one of the opposed legs includes a locking feature configured to lockingly engage with a bottom surface of the substrate when the first and second legs are inserted into the reciprocal aperture in the substrate.

16. (original) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 9, wherein the first contact interfaces comprise male pin connectors.

17. (previously presented) An electrical connector, comprising:

a housing having a substrate end mateable with a substrate and a connector end mateable with a second electrical connector;

a plurality of electrical contacts carried by the housing, each contact having a first contact interface positioned in the substrate end of the housing for interconnection with a reciprocal

contact interface carried by the substrate and a second contact interface positioned in the connector end of the housing for interconnection with a reciprocal contact interface carried by the second electrical connector;

a contact guide configured to mate with the substrate end of the housing, the contact guide including a plurality of apertures positioned to matingly align with the first contact interfaces; and

first and second posts extending from the housing, each of the first and second posts having a base portion configured to mate with a reciprocal aperture formed on the contact guide and a distal portion configured to snapably mate with a reciprocal aperture formed on the substrate for securing the housing to both the contact guide and the substrate, respectively, wherein each of the first and second posts has first and second opposed legs of different lengths that are compressible towards one another to allow the first and second posts to be inserted into reciprocal apertures in the substrate.

18. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 17, wherein the base portions of the first and second posts have an enlarged portion sized to form an interference fit with the reciprocal apertures in the contact guide.

19. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 17, wherein the distal portions of the first and second posts are adapted to snap into the reciprocal apertures in the substrate.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (previously presented) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 17, wherein at least one of the first and second opposed legs of each post includes a locking feature on the distal end configured to lockingly engage against a bottom face of the substrate when the first and second legs are inserted into a reciprocal aperture in the substrate.

22. (original) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 17, wherein the first and second contact interfaces comprise male pin connectors.

23. (original) An electrical connector as set forth in claim 17, wherein the first contact interface is oriented perpendicular to the second contact interface.